is well pronounced, maintains its most moving effect to this day. How then can we say that is is only the invention of the moment in speech that can move us? How can it be intimated

that the eye flashes only when the tongue prosounces an original thing? be Buckley tells a story about James Russell Lowell and Bishop Simpson. When President Garfield died a memorial meeting was held in Excise Hall, London. Mr. Lowell, then United States Minister to the Court of St.

James's, presided. He read an address, Dr. Buckler says, with classic elegance. "Nothing could have been more fitting. It was received with calmuless, intellectual interest." A little later came Bishop Simpson of Philadelphia. His roles trembled; there was pathos in his He spoke of the Queen's message of sympathy to Mrs. Garfield, and exclaimed with intense fervor, "God bless Queen Victoria!" whole audience, Dr. Buckley says, rose "Mr. Lowell appeared perplexed, sifnot quite understanding the situation or seegnizing the propriety of such an outburst. but as it continued and the recople seemed to less themselves, he joined in the demonstra-As for Bishop Simpson, he stood, Dr. Buckley says, "with folded arms, apparently scalm as though he were some fabled god intoking a mighty force. You, we have all been witness of things of

this sort. The mere enunciation of a name will set an immense assemblage in agitation. Let an erator of even the feeblest powers prosounce the name of Dewey in the hearing of 10,000 American citizens to-day; his ears will be split with the vociferous response. It will sot make the silghtest difference whether he delivers the name extemporaneously or has ommitted it and decided upon it beforehand. Of course, fervor is a catching thing; it is true, further, that the extemporaneous orator frequently has none of it, that he halts and hems and has no inspiration, and, alas! no art, Anybody who has ever attended a prayer meeting knows this. Sometimes an audience, notwithstanding the qualifications of a speaker, will not listen. There was Mr. Abner Dean of Angel's, in Mr. Bret Harte's poem; undoubtedly he was a gifted orator, but he had got no further than "a point of order when a chunk of old red sandstone took him in the abdomen." We Reacher a famous extemporaneous orator. needed all his powers when he addressed at (varroot a mub that wanted cotton from the Confederate States. It would have availed litde to say merely "God bless Queen Victoria" in order to recommend himself to that inimical assemblage. A few days after Bishop Simpson had given such successful utterance to this worthy sentiment Dr. Buckley inquired of him: "Bishop, was the paragraph which produced that wonderful result committed?"
"No," said the Bishop, "I will confess to you that I was as much surprised as Mr. Lowell at the effect of mr words." This shows that the specessful extemporaneous orator is not necessarily a prophet. Bishop Simpson, Dr. Buckley says, was in that half trance into which an earnest speaker sometimes fails. He would have had difficulty in relapsing into this trance that at been called upon to face such opposition as Mr. Beecher had to encounter twenty Dr. Buckley holds that one is apt to be tripped

who end-avers at the same time to extempo-rise and to recite things that he has committed memory. "The highest gift of extemporiration is usually like a spirited steed, which cannot be driven double, or like a realous maiden, who will not brook divided attentions." Dr. Buckley says of Gov. N. P. Banks of Massschusetts, at one time celebrated in story as the "Bobbin Boy," that "a nobler voice than his no speaker ever possessed-an organ-toned base of unusual range." It has now passed simost entirely out of memory, and the words that it uttered have not survived at all. Dr. Buckley was one of that numerous body

of Americans who were brought up in reverence of the short "a." "Dialectic pronuncia-tions in different sections of the United States." he says, "are sources of embarrassment tomany speakers who find themselves in a region remote from that in which they received their early training. The most striking example relates to the Italian 'a.' Walker's Die tionary was for many years a standard authority in the Middle States. He was opposed to the introduction of that 'a' into the language. Consequently, in the region of which Philadelphia may be said to be the centre, including Princeton College during its early history, the word 'caim' was pronounced so that it rhymed with 'ciam.' I was trained in that school, and on removing to New England, found myself quently recurring word 'psalm' so as to make sound like an abbreviation of 'Samuel.' This ed me to a study of the subject, to which I found that Noah Webster had devoted much attention in the introduction to his dictionary. and I adopted the now general pronunciation of that class of words. On returning to my naive town I was charged with affectation, and Walker's Dictionary was produced to prove the allegation. Dr. Buckley was wise to espouse the New England form, which is more reasonable than the other. It is curious to think that Neah Webster should have needed to write an elaborate defence of the broad "a." Probably he had heard New England people say "sodywater." Mr. Walker, who made the Middle States dictionary, must have found some difficulty when he came to the familiar locution, loaded for b'ar." Perhaps he called this loaded for bear;" if he did he spoiled it. Plents of New England people, however, were, and probably still are, of his way of thinking. A Mayor of western Massachusetts, after he had blessed regiments which were going to the war he called them rigiments), always used to say, and with inevitable effect. "We will now unite in singing 'Ameriky.'"

Daniel S. Dickinson of New York, Dr. Bucker here narrates, once delivered a war oration in Boston. Edward Everett and Wendell Phil-lips sat on the platform from which he spoke. Mr. Dickinson quoted a well-known line of poetry with great fervor. Pushing back his long white locks and gesticulating portinently, he said in thrilling tones. "All are but parts of one stipenduous whole." Mr. Phillips slightly raised his eyebrows on hearing the extra syl-lable, but Mr. Everett never winked; his selfpossession was absolute. The audience laughed; they were Boston bred and they thew the difference between "stupendous" and "stupendous;" but Mr. Dickinson looked ever and never knew what they were

Senator John P. Hale's daughters knew some thing about pronunciation, as the author of this book learned. He was preaching one day when they and their father were in the congreration. He contrasted the spiritual nature of the Christian heaven with that described in the Moran. He exclaimed; "What is the heaven of Mohammed but a species of se-rag-lio?" Senator Hale remained impassive, but his seasor hale remained impassive, but his daughters exchanged giances. Next day a linead said to the doctor. "Did you say 'sense-lio' in your sermon yesterday?" "I did," said the doctor, bravely. "What is the matter with it?" "Even I," replied the friend. "am samed acquight a know that it is propositiesed. earned enough to know that it is pronounced The doctor has so pronounced it ever since. The experience was mortifying. he says, but valuable. The book contains every-thing that anybody can think of about oratory is very interesting.

An interesting experiment in realism, the sealism of Zola in the main, not that of Mr. Howells, is made by Mr. Frank Norris in "Meleague, a Story of San Francisco" | Doubleday & Company It is in the understanding preation of Zola's ideas that the merit orris's work consists, the stress put or the influence of inanimate surroundings, the Cady hammering at psychological peculiars-Hes of the characters, rather than in the minute description of coarse acts and sordid scenes that Mr. Norris neglects these externals; far from it. His story is of tenement-house life. his history, in English at least; he has to deal and of people fringing on the criminal classes; with a period of petty court intrigues and endone a single high or ennobing imbulse find room in it from beginning to end; levertheless, it is safe to say that the method sould have proved equally effective had the the described reputable persons amid clean en-themsents. That Mr. Norris has mastered

The liturar of the Church of England, when it Zola's secret, a description, taken at random,

Her husband was in the "Dental Parlors" lying back in his operating chair, fast salesp. The little stove was crammed with coke, the room was overheated, the air was thick and foul with the odors of ether, of coke gas, of stale beer and cheap tobacco. The dentist sprawled his gigantic limbs over the worn velvet of the operating chair; his cost and est and shoes were off, and his huge feet, in their thick gray socks, dangled over the edge of the footrest; his pipe, fallen from his half-open mouth, had spilled the ashes into his lap, while on the floor, at his side, stood the half-empty pitcher of steam beer. His head had rolled limply upon one shoulder, his face was red with sleep, and from his open mouth came a terrific sound of smoring.

If it was as bad as this now, only three weeks after her marriage, how would it be in the years to come? Year after year, month after month, hou salient jaw, was to feel the touch of those enormous red hands, was to hear the elephantine tread of those huge feet-in thick gray socks. Year after year, day after day, there would be no change, and would last all her life.

That first snore in married life, universal though its tragic interest may be, is too painful an incident to be exposed so ruthlessly; yet it is not from the snore, emitted here so strangely from the month, nor from the huge feet even, that the reader draws the conviction that this marriage is a hopeless failure, but from the "thick gray socks." There is the Zola touch. It matters not that reason can perceive no inherent wickedness in either the color or texture of the garments, nor that they must have been familiar objects to a young woman brought up in the wife's station in life; for the reader the "thick gray socks" are damning and he knows that there is trouble shead. So, too, in the matter of kissing during the courtship of the couple, there are occasions where the author wishes to show that it was wrong for them to do so. He then uses the phrase: "They kissed each other, grossly, full in the mouth." Now, though the poets have long sanctioned such usage of the lips, and though we know that refinement is not to be looked for in the couple in question, we feel shocked and disgusted at this statement whenever it is made, which is the effect intended by the author. He attains his end by the simple means of putting a comma before "grossly," thus leaving the idea indelibly fixed on his reader's mind. Mr. Norris sticks pretty closely to his Zola models, though he is now and then tempted by other schools of realism. At the very start it looks as though he were going to follow in the track of M. Huyamans, who, it may be remembered, before he turn 1 to mysticism. was an ardent disciple of Zola and tried to outdo his master. His plan was to cram up technical vocabularies and use them in his stories to instruct his readers and enrich the French language. "Le Bilateral," a muchlauded tale in its day, contained half a dozen distinct professional vocabularies. Mr. Norris who adds a needless horror to an already disapproaches the J. K. Huysmans style in this passage:

By degrees the operation progressed. One day just after McTeague had put in the temperary guttapercha fillings and nothing more could be done at that sitting, Trina asked him to examine the rest of her teeth. They were perfect, with one exception—a spot of white cames on the lateral surface of an incisor. McTeague filled it with gold, enlarging the cavity with hard bits and hos excavators and burring in afterward with half-cone burrs. The cavity was deep and Trina began to wince and mean. To hart Trina was a positive anguish to McTeague, yet an anguish which he was obliged to endure at every hour of the sitting. It was harrowing-he sweated under it-to be forced to torture her, of all romen in the world; could anything be worse than

Hurt?" he inquired, anxiously. She answered by frowning, with a sharp intake of breath, putting her fingers over her closed lips and nodding her head. McTeague sprayed the tooth with gircerite of tannin, but without effect. Rather than hurt her, he found himself forced to the use of anzethesia, which he bated. He had a notion that the nitrous oxide gas was dangerous, so on this occasion, as on all others, used other. He put the sponge a half dozen times to Trina's

face, more nervous than he had ever been before, watching the symptoms closely. Her breathing be came short and irregular, there was a slight twitch-ing of the muscles. When her thumbs turned toward the palms he took the sponge away. She passed off very quickly, and, with a long sigh, sank back into the chair.

There are more such descriptions, but Mr. Norris gives them up soon. Occasionally he turns toward the school of Mr. Howells. His topographical data about San Francisco and other parts of California remind one of Mr. Howells's local coloring, but are equally unimportant to the story, which might have been placed in any other moderately large city. The wife's recoil from her husband because he leaves a bit of egg on his mustache at breakfast is the sort of realism in which Mr. Howells delights, but Mr. Norris is fairly sucessful in avoiding this weaker form, though from his position as a watchful but unsympathetic observer of slum life he is naturally attracted to it. His hero, the strong, slow, stupid workman, difficult to arouse, but a flend when stung by the sense of injustice done to him, is an old friend in French fletion. We first came across him in "The Wandering Jew of Eugène Sue, but he antedates that romance, and has done much service since. The story is purposely unpleasant throughout; we cannot see that its descrip tions of life can be of service to any one. Mr. Norris, however, has carried out well a painstaking piece of work, so that any one who begins the book will read it to the end. He has worked out his psychological problem in a logical manner. has made many correct observations of life and customs, and, on the whole tells his story in a straightforward way. He has talent, and when he next writes a story we hope that he will select a less disagreeable subject, drop literary models, whether realistic

or not, and trust to his own powers. At an opportune moment appears in the Cambridge Historical Series a volume on Spain: Its Greatness and Decay, 1479-1788," by Martin A. S. Hume, with an introduction by Edward Armstrong (Macmillans). In all likelihood the author, if he could have foreseen that the dramatic conclusion to his story was impending even while he was writing. would have continued his narrative to the present day instead of stopping at the French revclution. As it is, the statement that "Cuba and the Philippines still represent her colonial em-pire in the Western and Eastern Indies" is corrected in a note to the preface. Mr. Hume's work is not agreeable reading; as the dates show, it is the record of the world mismanagement and wrongdoing that reduced the greatest empire of modern times to its present pitiable condition among the nations of Europe, a warning example of wasted opportunities and neglected duties. There is to question here of Moorish romance or o chivalious Cids; even the stirring account of the building of the empire is condensed by Mr Armstrong into a hundred-page summary of the reigns of Ferdinand and Isabella and of the Emperor Charles V. Then Mr. Hume starts in on his gloomy task of showing how the ruin came about, as one evil Philip succeeded another. Mr. Hume has edited the Calendars of Spanish State papers, and his work has the merits and defects of historians who build on that material. Knowledge of State papers gives to even a general history the authority of information obtained at first hand and that is often new. It often tempts the investigator, however, to lay more atress on the difficult problems he has solved than is warranted by their importance in history and to describe the diplomatic tangles he has unravelled, a method admirable in antiquarian or technical historical essays, but confusing to the unscientific reader. Von Banke is the greatest of this school, and S B. Gardiner its best exponent in England their books are authoritative, but very hard to read. Mr. Hume is breaking new ground in

less diplomatic machinations. The reader will therefore need a clear head to follow him, but

if he does he will understand fully why it is that Spain broke down so completely in the

war now ending.
All the scandals that have afflicted the Haps-

burgs and their Bavarian relatives during Emperor Francis Joseph's reign are recounted in 'The Martyrdom of an Empress," no author's name (Harpers). The writer professes to have been a personal attendant and confidente of the late Empress Elizabeth. The book is a clumsy

compilation of stories that have been current in the newspapers for many years, expanded to pearly 300 pages, and with no new information. A number of portraits from photographs is added; the frontispiece, professing to be the picture of the Empress when she was (b) years of age, may be a genuine portrait, but is that of a woman thirty or forty years younger. An unforeseen result of the World's Fair at Chicago has been the impulse given to many worthy persons to write books on matters in which they became interested at that exhibi-tion. Among these books is "The Redemption of Africa: a Story of Civilization," two volumes, Frederic Perry Noble (Fleming H. Revell Company). The title is misleading; the real subject of his book is revealed by the author in the first sentence of his preface: "There is a place and to-day is the time for an account, compact, yet comprehensive, of African missions," It is the story of Protestant missions in Africa that Mr. Noble tells. To be sure he gives an account of Roman Catholic missionary efforts as well, that is short, biased and inaccurate, dwelling chiefly on the quarrels with rival missionaries, and he has something to say of Mohammedanism as well. Mr. Noble was Secretary of the Chicago Congress on Africa, and in a position to obtain accurate statistical information; and liberal use of statistics is made in his book. The story of the African missions, however, is surely great and noble enough in itself to have been

flil out two volumes. With wide margins, uncut edges, gilt top, gaudy binding but seemingly smaller type, the twelve-volume edition recently noticed in THE Sun of "The Complete Works of Robert Browning," edited by Charlotte Porter and Helen A. Clarke, is published by George D. Sproull. We have received the first volume, a numbered copy, of an edition "limited" to 1,250. Why that number should be selected rather than 5,000 or 20,000 it is difficult to understand. Apart from the peculiar excellences of prints or typography inherent to the first copies struck off the value of a "limited" edition depends on the fact that it is limited, and that copies must therefore be scarce. Such editions, in consequence, usually consist of a few hundred coples-even four or five hundred would seem ex-cessive to a bibliophile. Of course, there is no copyright on the word "limited," no more than there is on the phrase "edition de luxe." and publishers are free to limit editions to the number of copies, however large, that they expect to sell, as well as to take no more pains with their "luxurious" books than with any other works they issue.

told without the padding, the bombastic rhet-

oric and the childish argument which serve to

The capture of Omdurman is the occasion for the publication of a third edition of don in Central Africa, 1874-1879," by George Birekbeck Hill | Macmillans |. The book, as is well known, is made up of extracts from Gordon's letters to his family. The second edition was brought out immediately after his death.

"An Incident and Other Happenings," by Sarah Barnwell Elliott (Harpers), contains eight stories of Southern life before and since the war. Two or three are extremely good. easting a good deal of light on matters where Northern and Southern views of life differ

Mr. E. W. Hornung's idea in "The Amateur Cracksman" (Charles Scribner's Sons! is ! tell stories of crime from the standpoint of the parpetrator. He makes two young men, holding a place in respectable society, commit several crimes, each adventure being a story in itself. In spite of the author's ingenuity, however, we must confess that the interest which might be aroused by a well-told detective story of the unravelling of a criminal mystery fails almost entirely before these accounts of the crimes themselves. The fashion has set in for tales of adventure

in books as well as on the stage, and so long as writers provide them the publishers seem ready to print them, regardless of merit. The late Sglvanus Cobb left this world too soon. Of the books before us "The Knight of the Golden Chain," by R. D. Chetwode (Appletons), is a historical romance of the time of King Stephen, told in the stilted style which, since "Ivanhoe," has been thought appropriate to British historical romance. 'Ricroft of Withens," by Halliwell Sutcliffe (Appletons), is a romance of rural England in Prince Charlie's day, in the mi-nutely descriptive manner of Mr. B. D. "Lorna Doone." It is not "Two Men o' Mendip," by Walbadly done. ter Raymond (Doubleday & McClure Companyl, is a rustic tale after the manner of Mr Thomas Hardy. "Taurua; or, Written in the Book of Fate," by Emily S. Loud the Edito Publishing Company', is rather puzzling, for we cannot make out whether it is romance or a political pamphlet. It is a story of Tahitland of several natives of the island, who seem to have been treated unjustly, from the historical statements interspersed. Many Tahitian words occur in the text, which might be made useful for local coloring in South Pacific fiction In "The Heart of Denise and Other Tales" Longmans, Green & Co. Mr. S. Levett Yeats has tried his hand with varying success at imitations of popular authors. The story that gives the title to his book is a comance of adventure after the style of Mr. Anthony Hope, while in. The Madness of Shere Bahadur and "The Foot of Gautama" Mr. Kinling is the model. One or two stories are readable. We have also received:

"Young Mistley." Henry Seton Merriman in Mackel & Co.

"If I Were a Man; the Story of a New Southerner." Harrison Bobertson. (Charles Scribner's Sons.

"The Biblical Museum; the Old Testament," volume 1, by James Comper Gray, revised by the Rev. George M. Adams, D. D. E. R. Herrick & Co.

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